

REMARKS

The claims in the application are 1-6, 8 and Claims 21-33 added by the present amendment.

Favorable reconsideration of the application as amended is respectfully requested.

Claims 7 and 19 have been canceled without prejudice, rendering moot the objection to the drawings and enablement rejection under 35 U.S.C. §112, first paragraph, raised in paragraphs 1 and 5 of the Office Action. The claims have also been amended to eliminate the various formal rejections under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph, raised in paragraphs 7.a.-h. of the Office Action. Claims 21-33 introduced herein find clear, unequivocal support throughout the present application and drawings.

Claims 1-4 and 9 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102 as being anticipated by U.S. Pat. No. 3,426,915 to Tesch in paragraph 10 of the Office Action while Claims 1-6, 8-18 and 20 have been rejected as being anticipated by U.S. Pat. No. 3,028,018 to Mott in paragraph 11 of the Office Action and Claims 1-6, 8-12, 14-18 and 20 rejected as being anticipated by U.S. Pat. No. 4,383,316 to Sterner et al. in paragraph 12 of the Office Action. It is respectfully submitted clarification of the claim language herein definitely recites the patentable distinctions of the claimed invention over the applied art. In any event, the present invention will be briefly described with reference to preferred embodiments thereof illustrated in the drawings of the present application.

The present invention provides for successful erection of a main boom 12 (Figs. 3 and 4) from a flat, extended position along the ground (Fig. 1) by bending parts 14, 16 coupled together 18 (Fig. 2) during erection from the flat extended position (Fig. 1). More particularly, this is accomplished as recited in independent Claim 1 where a long main boom 12 comprises two parts 14, 16 pivotally linked together at a swivel point 18, and arranged such that, when the main boom 12 is initially raised from the flat, extended position along the ground, the boom parts 14, 16 bend with respect to one another and, as said main boom 12 is raised, an upper boom part 16 swivels 18 with respect to a lower boom part 14 to position the main boom 12 in extended or partially extended final erection position with the boom parts 14, 16 extended either substantially parallel or at a swivel angle with respect to one another.

The thus-raised main boom 12 does not require any retainer device. The present invention comprises components forming specific structure and arrangement for attaining these advantages and recited, e.g., in several of the dependent claims herein. The features of the presently claimed invention, together with the accompanying advantages attained thereby, are neither disclosed nor suggested by the applied art, for the following reasons.

In Tesch, boom 13 is stored in retracted or folded condition, i.e., is not erected from a flat extended position along the ground to a raised extended position by first being bent as shown, e.g., in Fig. 2 of the present application. Furthermore, strut or cantilever member 42 in Tesch is oriented parallel and against upper section 17 of the boom in raised

position, unlike orientation of strut 20 as shown in Fig. 6 of the present application (please see, e.g., Claim 33).


Mott just illustrates folding up a main boom 14 and jib boom 16, unlike raising of main boom 12 as in the present invention. Moreover, brackets 34 and 40 in Mott are fixedly mounted upon respective boom halves 26 and 28 and thus swivel with the respective boom halves 26 and 28 and not in relation to these boom halves 26 and 28, unlike strut member 20 of the present invention as shown in Figs. 2-7 and which is positioned to swivel upon a swivel point 22 in turn mounted upon the respective boom part 16 (please see, e.g., Claim 2).

Sterner et al just show raising a luffing jib 23 from an already-extended main boom 21, and as such, are remote to the present invention. The remaining art of record has not been applied against the claims and will not be commented upon further at this time.

Accordingly, in view of the forgoing amendment and accompanying remarks, it is respectfully submitted all claims pending herein are in condition for allowance. Please contact the undersigned attorney should there be any questions. A petition for an automatic one month extension of time for response under 37 C.F.R. §1.136(a) is enclosed in triplicate, together with the requisite petition fee.

Early favorable action is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,


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